AN ORDINANCE SETTING FORTH THE POLICY FOR CITY EMPLOYEES WHO PROVIDE ELECTION RELATED SERVICES.

WHEREAS, before January 1, 1993 City employees historically received paid time off for Primary and General Election Days as holidays; and,

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City of Fort Wayne to have adequately staffed polling places to ensure the integrity of the democratic process.

WHEREAS, the Allen County Election Board has had difficulty filling positions essential to operating elections:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA:

Section 1. No collective bargaining agreement between the City and a collective bargaining unit shall contain a provision allowing for an excused absence and payment for individuals who provide election related services.

Section 2. Primary Election and General Election Days shall not be recognized as authorized days off for persons employed by the City of Fort Wayne, except for individuals who work for the Allen County Election Board as Ward Chair, Precinct Committee Person, Inspector, Clerk, or Judge, er-Sheriff, or in some other official capacity appointed by the Allen County Election Board for at least eight (8) hours on the Election Day in question.

Section 3. Notification of intent to be absent for such Election Day activity must be given to the employee's supervisor at least four (4) calendar days before the Election Day on which the absence will occur. Subsequent to the

 authorization for absence, the employee must provide certification from the Allen County Election Board of the election related work performed to be eligible for an authorized day off with pay.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and any and all necessary approval by the Mayor, and shall apply to all agreements entered into after its effective date.

Member of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

J. Timothy M. Caul J. Timothy McCaulay, Corporation Jounsel

Read the fi	rst time in full and	on motion b	y y avi	ne,
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DATED:	8-8-95	SANDRA E.	L. G. A. KENNEDY, CITY	CLERK
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BILL NO. G-95-07-27 (as amended

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON REGULATIONS

## CLETUS R. EDMONDS - REBECCA J. RAVINE - CO-CHAIR ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS

WE, YOUR	COMMITTEE	ON	REGULATIONS		TO WHOM WAS		
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DATED: 8.8-95.

Bill No. G-95-07-27 (as amended)

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General Ordinance no. G-\_\_\_\_

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Member of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

J. Timothy McCaulay, Corporation Counsel

Bill No. G-95-08-27

General Ordinance no. G-\_\_\_\_

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Member of Council

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY

Timothy McCaulay Corporation Counsel

1-95-07-27



TO; Members of the City Council

FROM: Greg Purcell Chief of Staff

DATE: July 24, 1995

SUBJECT: Election Day Policy for City Employees

In April 1994, the City Council defeated an ordinance to allow City employees the opportunity to take Election Day off. I believe the primary reason for the defeat of the ordinance was that it allowed time off for City employees to work for a political party or candidate.

However, since that time we have contacted the Republican and Democratic Party County Chairs and learned that both parties are having difficulty filling positions for the Election Board. In contrast to the ordinance defeated in 1994, we are submitting a new ordinance that would allow City employees to take Election Day off, if and only if, they are filling official poll worker positions essential to the smooth operation of the electoral process.

These positions, (ward chair, precinct committee person, inspector, clerk, judge, and sheriff) require a miminum of a 12 hour day from poll opening to closing, and if one considers transportation and training, the total commitment can easily exceed 14 hours. Based on the long hours and the lack of citizens willing to fill these positions, we believe it is appropriate for the City Council to adopt an ordinance to authorize employees to work in official election positions.

As you probably know, the County usually gives all employees Election Day off, although they are moving toward a policy similar to ours. Final determinations have not been made by the County Commissioners. Historically, the City used to give all employees Election Day off as well, although it was clear that only a small percentage used the time for election activities. Most employees simply took the time off as an additional holiday.

Rather than revert to a practice of giving everyone the day off, we believe the taxpayers are better served by having elections as a regular work day. However, in view of the pressing need for official poll workers, we believe the attached ordinance is responsible action to ensure the smooth operation of elections.



TO:

Members of the City Council

FROM:

DATE:

August 7, 1995

SUBJECT: Election Day Policy (As Amended) D-95-07-27

Attached is an amended ordinance per the Council's direction last week. Please note the following changes:

Page One, Line 26 - The position of "Sheriff" has been deleted since the County Commissioners will be introducing an ordinance eliminating this position. I have left the language in that allows "... in some other official capacity appointed by the Allen County Election Board" since this seems to be very specific language that would accommodate any new title or change in title of positions. However, if you are uncomfortable with this, you may simply pass an amendment to delete the language.

Page Two, Line 4 - At the end of Section 3, I have added ". . . and must remit to the City of Fort Wayne the base pay issued by the Allen County Election Board." This parallels similar language used for jury duty. Pay for attending training meetings and transporting supplies would be exempt from remittance.

I believe these changes comply with the consensus from Council last week. Please let me know if you have any questions.

GP/gb

## Sheriff's job at polls may be eliminated

▶ It would save \$24,000 in this year's elections.

> By MIKE DOOLEY of The News-Sentinel

If you're one of the more than 100 Republicans and Democrats who planned to work as an election sheriff at the polls this November, get ready to turn in your bedge.

badge.

The Allen County Commissioners are expected to adopt an ordinance before the Nov. 7 election that will eliminate the sheriffs job from the panel of precinct workers who staff voting places. Counties were given the option of doing away with the positions in the last session of the General Assembly.

Eliminating the sheriffs will trim at least \$24,000 from the cost. of this year's city and town elections, and could mean a savings of at least \$36,000 in next year's countywide elections. The sheriffs are paid \$65 for working at the polls, and two — one from each party — are assigned to each voting place.

"Keeping the taxpayers in mind, I don't know how the commissioners could conscientiously do anything but this," county Election Director Pam Finlayson said. "It has the potential to save a lot of money."

But the proposed savings aren't the only reason for the "With automation, the process is a lot smoother," Finlayson said. "There just isn't that much for them to do any more."

Other precinct workers such as judges, clerks and inspectors can handle tasks the sheriffs were performing, Finlayson said.

The sheriffs' primary duty was keeping peace at polling places. In recent years, they also have helped answer questions voters had about such things as ballots and voting machines.

Gloria Bloom, who recruits Democratic precinct workers, said she had signed up 93 people to work as sheriffs this year.

"I guess in the long run, this will make it easier to fill the (precinct) boards," she said, "but I'm
worried some people are going to
get the wrong message. Some of
these people have been working
the polls for years, and I hope
they don't take this wrong."

Bloom said she will try to assign some of the would-be sheriffs to other posts.

Nila Armstrong, who fills the Republican precinct boards, said she was unsure how many sheriffs' spots she had filled.

"But we told all of them this was tentative," she said. "We knew this might be coming. If we can save the taxpayers some money, I think it's a good thing."

Democrats who have been recruited for the sheriffs' jobs can get more information on their status by calling Bloom at 483-1512. Republicans can reach Armstrong at 422-1554.

DIGEST SHEET
TITLE OF ORDINANCE Policy on time off for election related
services.
DEPARTMENT REQUESTING ORDINANCE
SYNOPSIS OF ORDINANCE Allows paid day off for City employees who
work in an official poll worker positions as appointed by the Allen
County Election Board, with proper notice to supervisor.
EFFECT OF PASSAGE Employees will be allowed time off with pay to work at the polls.
EFFECT OF NON-PASSAGE Employees will have to take personal or vacation time to work at the polls.

MONEY INVOLVED (Direct Cost, Expenditures, Savings) n/a

ASSIGNED TO COMMITTEE

Admn. Appr. \_\_\_\_\_